

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph [0049] with the following amended paragraph:

Although the sutures are described below in a preferred embodiment with a circular cross section, the sutures could also have a non-circular cross sectional shape that could increase the surface area and facilitate the formation of the barbs. Other cross sectional shapes may include, but are not limited to, oval, triangle, square, ~~parallelepiped~~ parallelogram, trapezoid, rhomboid, pentagon, hexagon, cruciform, and the like. Typically, barbs are cut into a polymeric filament that has been formed by extrusion using a die with a circular cross section, and thus, the cross section of the filament will be circular, as that is what results during such extrusion. However, extrusion dies can be custom made with any desired cross-sectional shape.

Immediately after paragraph [0205] and in front of paragraph [0206], please insert the following paragraphs:

[0205.1] Figure 17A depicts suture S5. Figure 17B is a cross sectional view along line 17B – 17B of suture S5 in Figure 17A, and illustrates the triangle shape of the cross-section of suture S5.

[0205.2] Figure 18A depicts suture S6. Figure 18B is a cross sectional view along line 18B – 18B of suture S6 in Figure 18A, and illustrates the oval shape of the cross-section of suture S6.

[0205.3] Figure 19A depicts suture S7. Figure 19B is a cross sectional view along line 19B – 19B of suture S7 in Figure 19A, and illustrates the square shape of the cross-section of suture S7.

[0205.4] Figure 20A depicts suture S8. Figure 20B is a cross sectional view along line 20B – 20B of suture S8 in Figure 20A, and illustrates the trapezoid shape of the cross-section of suture S8.

[0205.5] Figure 21A depicts suture S9. Figure 21B is a cross sectional view along line 21B – 21B of suture S9 in Figure 21A, and illustrates the rhomboid shape of the cross-section of suture S9.

[0205.6] Figure 22A depicts suture S10. Figure 22B is a cross sectional view along line 22B – 22B of suture S10 in Figure 22A, and illustrates the parallelogram shape of the cross-section of suture S10.

[0205.7] Figure 23A depicts suture S11. Figure 23B is a cross sectional view along line 23B – 23B of suture S11 in Figure 23A, and illustrates the pentagon shape of the cross-section of suture S11.

[0205.8] Figure 24A depicts suture S12. Figure 24B is a cross sectional view along line 24B – 24B of suture S12 in Figure 24A, and illustrates the cruciform shape of the cross-section of suture S12.

[0205.9] Figure 25A depicts suture S13. Figure 25B is a cross sectional view along line 25B – 25B of suture S13 in Figure 25A, and illustrates the hexagon shape of the cross-section of suture S8.